

Rotary



**TOGETHER,
WE END
POLIO**

**END
POLIO
NOW**



ROTARY'S MISSION TO ELIMINATE POLIO

Overview:

- What is polio?
- History
- Rotary's efforts
- Current status
- What's next

WHAT IS POLIO?

- Poliomyelitis (a.k.a. poliovirus) – a highly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under 5 years old.
- Spread person to person, typically through contaminated water.
- Most people who contract polio may be asymptomatic or show mild flu-like symptoms.
- Can cause **paralysis or death** in some people.
- There is no cure.
- ...*but* it is **preventable** with a **safe and effective vaccine**.



History

- First major documented polio outbreak in the U.S. occurred in 1894, with outbreaks throughout the 1900s paralyzing and killing thousands of people.
- In 1955, a vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk is declared safe and effective.
- Widespread use of polio vaccine starting in 1955 greatly reduced poliovirus infections over the next decade, with only 62 cases reported in 1965.
- The last case of naturally-occurring polio in the U.S. was reported in 1979.
- Polio was declared eliminated in the U.S. in 1994.
- Polio cases are still rarely reported in the U.S., usually as a result of international travel.
- Polio could come back in the U.S. if vaccination rates drop too low.



PolioPlus

- Launched in 1985, *PolioPlus* was the first and largest internationally coordinated private-sector support of a public health initiative, with an initial fundraising target of \$120 million.
- At that time, polio paralyzed 1,000+ children every single day in 125 polio-endemic countries.
- Founding partner of the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative**; has reduced polio cases by **99.9%** since first project (1979).

What's up
with the
“plus”?...



ROTARY'S EFFORTS:



**END
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- Working to eradicate polio for > 35 years.
- Rotary members have contributed > \$2.1 billion + countless volunteer hours to protect nearly **3 billion children** in 122 countries.
- 2023: endemic countries wild virus -- 4 cases in Afghanistan, 1 in Pakistan.
- 2023: in under immunized countries children are susceptible to vaccine derived viruses. Solution is to vaccinate all children < 5.
- Over past 10 years, 10 B doses given, fewer than 800 cases of VDPV. Without vaccinations, more than 6.5 M children would have been paralyzed by wild poliovirus.



PURPLE PINKIES:

In countries where polio is a threat, kids' pinkies are marked with purple ink after they're immunized, helping health workers know which kids are protected.



WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK

Because #VaccinesWork, Rotary & partners have reduced polio cases by 99.9% worldwide since 1988.

But we won't stop until we end the disease for good. Donate to support #EndPolio:
endpolio.org/donate

WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK

24-30 April 2023

endpolio.org | [#endpolio](https://twitter.com/endpolio)



WORLD POLIO DAY

- Tuesday October 24, 2023 is World Polio Day
- Ideas for Rotary Clubs to raise awareness and donations



Host a Viewing Party

The Rotary Club of Haute Rive, Mauritius, hosted a screening of a documentary about polio in Pakistan.



Host a Concert

Rotary clubs in Lucerne, Switzerland, raised \$300,000 by hosting a concert with an internationally renowned conductor and orchestra.

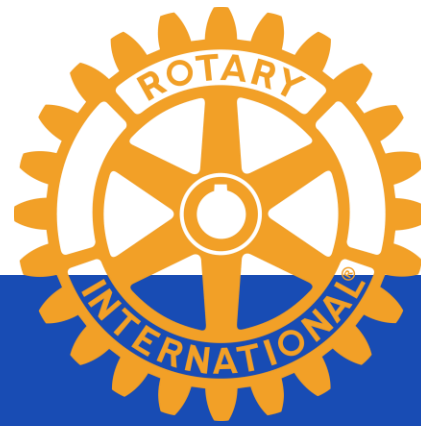


Host a Polio Walk or Ride

Rotary clubs in Kenya and France hosted walks and cycling events to raise funds and awareness for polio eradication efforts.



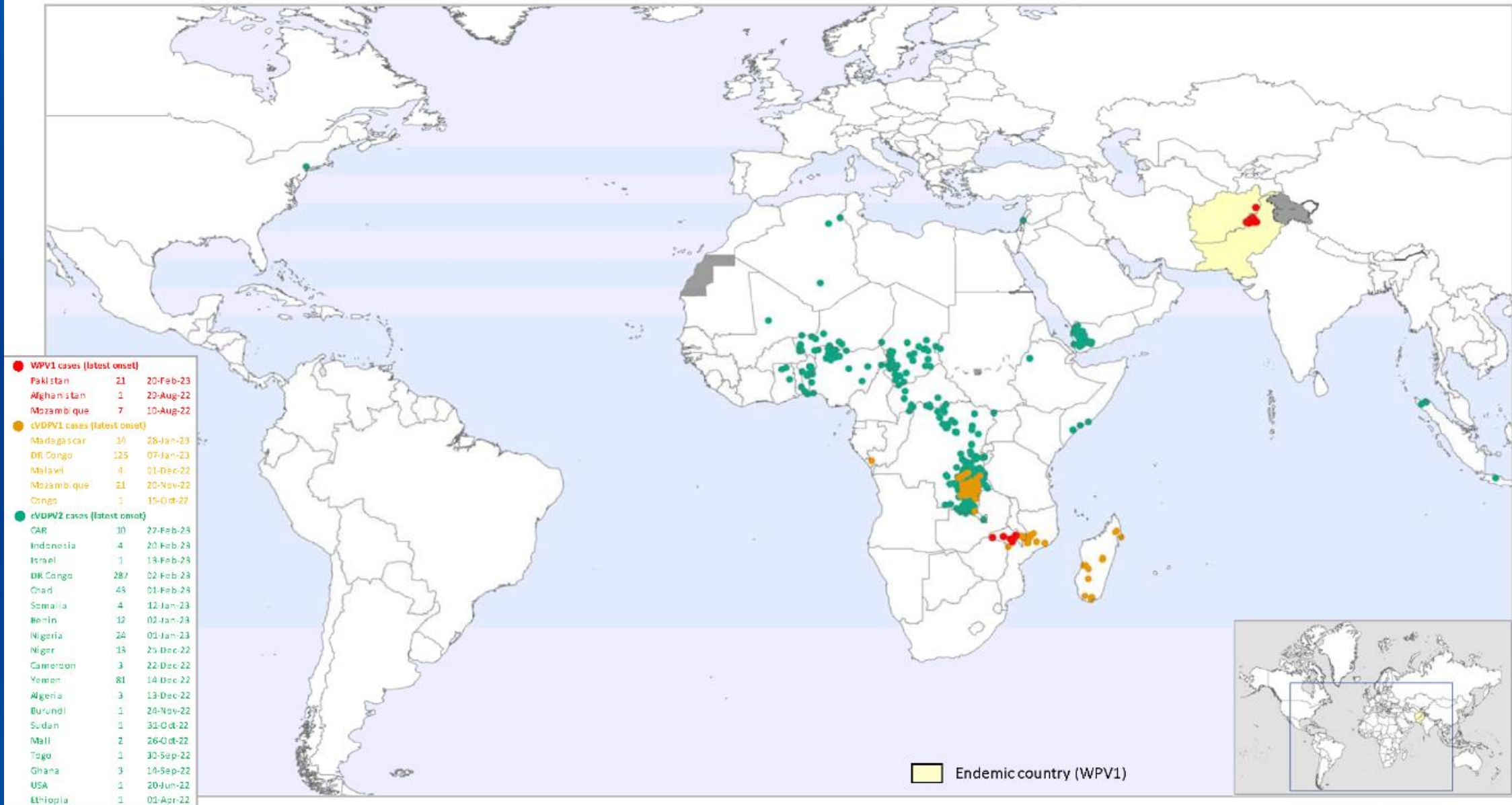
CURRENT STATUS:



- Polio is only endemic in two countries (Pakistan & Afghanistan).
- If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.



Global WPV1 & cVDPV Cases¹, Previous 12 Months²



¹Excludes viruses detected from environmental surveillance; ²Onset of paralysis: 29 Mar. 2022 to 28 Mar. 2023

What can you do?

- **Donate:**
 - Every donation helps us obtain the vaccines, transport, and materials needed in the fight against polio.
 - Your donation is worth triple: Donations are matched 2:1 by the Gates Foundation.
 - \$3: The average cost to fully protect a child against polio.
 - Join the PolioPlus Society – commit to donate \$100 per year
- **Learn:** Get informed and help make polio a subject of conversation in your community. Visit EndPolio.org to learn more.
- **Share:** Most people don't know that polio still affects children around the world. Help spread the word!

AREA OF FOCUS:

13

DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT



PEACEBUILDING AND
CONFLICT PREVENTION



DISEASE PREVENTION
AND TREATMENT



WATER, SANITATION,
AND HYGIENE



MATERNAL AND
CHILD HEALTH



BASIC EDUCATION
AND LITERACY



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT

